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Application No. 10/026,125

Atty Docket No. MXIC 1517-1

REMARKS

In the Official Action mailed 30 July 2003, the specification is objected to by the Examiner. Applicant has amended the specification above as suggested by the Examiner.

The Examiner reviewed claims 1-23. Claims 1-13 are allowed. The Examiner rejected claims 14 and 18-23 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Furusho et al. (U.S. 5,581,510) in view of Mori et al. (1990 IEEE article), and objected to claims 15-17 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have canceled claim 15, so claims 1-14 and 16-23 remain pending. Applicant has amended claims 14, 16 and 17 to incorporate the limitations of claim 15 into claim 14 and to update dependent cross-references. Additionally, claims 2-3 and 18-19 have been amended to correct a typographical error in the spelling of Fowler-Nordheim.

Rejection of Claims 14 and 18-23 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) and Objection to Claims 15-17

Applicants have incorporated the limitations of allowable claim 15 into rejected claim 14. Claims 14 and 16-23 should, therefore, be allowable.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims, as stated and amended herein, are in condition for allowance and solicits acceptance of the claims, in light of these remarks. If the Examiner disagrees and sees amendments that might facilitate allowance of the claims, a call would be appreciated.

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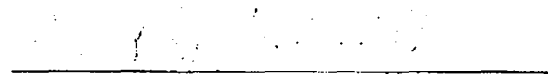
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Should any questions arise, the undersigned can ordinarily be reached at his office at 650-712-0340 from 8:30 to 5:30 PST, M-F and can be reached at his cell phone 415-902-6112 most other times.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 30 October 2003



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